

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

August 11, 2015

AMENDMENT TO ITEM 49C

For the past decade, the Board of Supervisors has requested various studies of the existing County jail system. Numerous reports on alternatives to incarceration, mental health diversion, and jail population management have been provided highlighting the programmatic shortfalls and the immediate need to replace an aging infrastructure. The studies come on the heels of lawsuits involving inmate abuse, overcrowding, mental health treatment, ADA violations, and a myriad of other issues known to many of us.

The recent report by Health Management Associates again highlights the need for a system-wide approach to dealing with a population that is increasing in our jail system. Currently, there are approximately 3,500 inmates daily with a serious mental illness, and an additional 1,000 with serious medical problems. Although the various County partners are working to provide the best treatment possible for these inmates,

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the fact is they are working in conditions that cannot sufficiently meet the needs of this population, which almost guarantees that they cycle back through our system again and again.

The need for a robust continuum of care model with appropriate County and community based services, including reentry partnerships and pre-arrest diversion, is necessary. Additionally, there must be adequate resources available to inmates with medical and mental health problems in the County jail system that are not eligible to divert into community based treatment options, something which our County does not currently have.

I believe the county needs both increased community based diversion programs and also a new state of the art in-custody treatment facility that can appropriately meet the needs of our inmate population. HMA gave the Board a range of 4,600 to 5,060 based on how successful new diversion and community treatment programs will be. I believe our new diversion programs will be successful, but we also know that our current facilities are simply inadequate. I therefore believe we should move forward with building a footprint for a 4,600 bed facility that would allow the Board to shrink the number of beds over the course of the next two years if our inmate population census is lower and if diversion works the way we all believe it will. Moving forward on the footprint will still allow the Board to make adjustments to the bed count number as new information becomes available.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors adopt the

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recommendations by Health Management Associates and proceed with a footprint for a 4,600 bed Consolidated Correctional Treatment Facility to serve the medical and mental health inmates in County custody.

**I, FURTHER, MOVE** that the Board:

1. Direct the Interim Chief Executive Officer and the Department of Public Works to begin all actions necessary to bring to the Board the environmental document for adoption, and appropriate consultant and design / build contracts for consideration for the CCTGF;
2. Direct the Interim Chief Executive Officer to work with Health Management Associates to identify opportunities to increase community based diversion programs and build capacity;
3. Direct the Interim Chief Executive Officer to identify the necessary funding and resources required to increase community based diversion programs and build capacity;
4. Move forward with the proposed Mira Loma Women's facility project with a total of 1,604 beds; and
5. Direct the Interim Chief Executive Officer, Treasurer and Tax Collector, and Sheriff to identify alternative methods of funding to reduce the overall net County cost and long term debt financing for the CCTF project, to include securing State grant funding and financing assistance.

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